

NEWS FROM SCDCA

South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs



Brandolyn Thomas Pinkston, Administrator

June 13, 2005

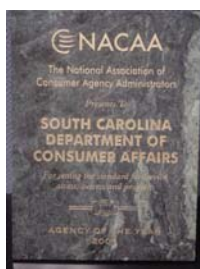
Release #05-028

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DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS NAMED AGENCY OF THE YEAR

Columbia, S.C. – The South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs has been named the *2005 Agency of the Year* by the National Association of Consumer Agency Administrators (NACAA). The annual award, presented recently at the NACAA Annual Meeting Awards Luncheon in New Orleans, recognizes the outstanding performance of a NACCA member agency, either through long-term efforts or by virtue of a significant program or other success. Other criteria includes a successful and beneficial enforcement action or an outstanding education or outreach program. **The inscription on the award reads, “for setting the standard for service, access, success, and progress.”**

Celebrating 30 years of service in South Carolina the Department’s achievements include:

- Opening three satellite locations around the state
- Launching a Buyer Beware program

-Continued-

About the South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs:

Established by the Consumer Protection code in 1974, The South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs represents the interests of South Carolina Consumers.

Our mission is to protect consumers from inequities in the marketplace through advocacy, mediation, enforcement and education.

For more information, visit www.sccconsumer.gov.

- Settling a hundred million dollar lawsuit with BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc., resulting in bill credits to current residential and business customers
- Establishing boards and roundtables to maintain dialogue with businesses it regulates
- Active involvement in predatory lending, credit counseling, loan origination and professional employer organizations legislation

“I’m very proud of the department and its many achievements in promoting and protecting the interests of consumers in South Carolina,” said Administrator Brandolyn Thomas Pinkston. “In particular, our staff is to be commended for this great milestone, as the global marketplace continues to present us with great challenges and exciting opportunities.”

NACAA is the premiere source of intelligence and dialog on consumer trends, issues and updates. NACAA members are front line public and private advocates, who work with consumers to solve problems, prosecute offenders, advance legislation, and educate the public. NACAA currently represents more than 160 government agencies and 50 corporate consumer offices in the U.S. and abroad.

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